

General Description

The following sections briefly describe the contents of three downloadable Excel (Microsoft Inc.) files containing the soil data collected from sites near Delta Junction, Alaska. Unavailable or inapplicable data is indicated by a dash (“-”). Additional information on these sites as well as sampling and analyses procedures can be found in USGS Open-File Report 2010-1061, which this file accompanies.

Delta06_Field_OFR

This file contains the field descriptions of the sampled soils and includes the following columns:

Sample ID	Sample identification: The first four characters indicate the site sampled. The number that follows these four characters indicates the soil profile within the site. A decimal point separates the profile number from the basal depth of the sample (in cm).
Depth	Indicates the basal depth, in cm, of sampling increment.
Field Horizon Code	Horizon type of the sample, as defined in the field. L = live moss, D = dead moss, F = fibric organic matter (OM), M = mesic OM, H = humic OM, A = A mineral soil horizon, LN = lichen, LT = litter. A lower case ‘b’ before a horizon code indicates the sample showed evidence of burning (e.g. scorched, charred).
Sample Description	A brief description of the sample.

Roots	Root abundance and size using conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998).
pH	The pH of the sample, either determined in the lab using a LaMotte pH kit.
Moist Munsell Color	Color of moist soil based on the Munsell soil color chart.
Structure	Grade, size, strength and type of soil structure following conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998).
Von Post or Texture	If organic soil, the classification using the von Post scale of humification (Damman and French, 1987). If mineral soil, the soil texture class as described in the field following conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998). Note that some samples were submitted for particle size (see Delta06_Physical) and may have more accurate texture descriptions based on these data.
Plasticity	Plasticity following conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998).
Stickiness	Stickiness following conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998).
Firmness	Moist consistence following conventions of USDA-ARS (Staff, 1998).
Height above mineral	Height of each basal depth above the mineral soil boundary. Therefore, the bottom organic layer is at zero and all mineral horizons are negative numbers.

Delta06_Physical_OFR

This file contains physical data such as bulk density, volumetric moisture content, and particle size analysis. Column definitions are as follows:

Sample ID	Sample identification: The first four characters indicate the site sampled. The number that follows these four characters indicates the soil profile within the site. A decimal point separates the profile number from the basal depth of the sample (in cm).
Depth	Indicates the basal depth, in cm, of sampling increment.
Field Horizon Code	Horizon type of the sample, as defined in the field. L = live moss, D = dead moss, F = fibric organic matter (OM), M = mesic OM, H = humic OM, A = A mineral soil horizon, C = C mineral soil horizon, LN = lichen, LT = litter. A lower case 'b' before a horizon code indicates the sample showed evidence of burning (e.g. scorched, charred).
Sample Description	A brief description of the sample.
Date Sampled	Date during which the sample was taken (month/day/year).
Fraction >2 mm in Sample	Dry weight percent of soil particles not passing through a 2 mm sieve after gentle crushing.
Roots >1 cm in Sample	Dry weight percent of roots larger than 1 cm in diameter in the sample.
Bulk Density	Grams of oven-dried soil per cubic centimeter. Calculated by subtracting the

(<2 mm)	weight of the soil particles greater than 2 mm and roots greater than 1 cm diameter removed from the weight total bulk density (see next column). No volume adjustment has been made for the fractions removed.
Total Bulk Density	Grams of oven-dried soil per cubic centimeter for the entire soil sample with no fractions excluded.
Volumetric Field Moisture	The percent water in the sample, by volume, assuming similar moisture and bulk density samples.
Convert from Air Dry to Oven Dry	Percent, by weight, of moisture remaining in a sample after air-drying to constant weight as determined by subsequently oven-drying the sample. These data can be used to convert carbon and nitrogen content from an oven- to and air-dry basis using the following equation: $\text{Bulk Density}_{\text{air-dry}} = \text{Bulk Density}_{\text{oven dry}} / (1 - (\text{Covert}_{\text{AD to OD}}/100))$
Sand	Percent by weight of soil particles greater than 0.05 mm in the sample remaining after removal of particles greater than 2 mm and roots greater than 1 cm diameter.
Coarse Silt	Percent by weight of soil particles in the size range from 0.02 to 0.05 mm in the sample remaining after removal of particles greater than 2 mm and roots greater than 1 cm diameter.
Fine Silt	Percent by weight of soil particles in the size range from 0.002 to 0.020 mm in the sample remaining after removal of particles greater than 2 mm and roots greater than 1 cm diameter.
Clay	Percent by weight of soil particles <0.002 mm in the sample remaining after removal of particles greater than 2 mm and roots greater than 1 cm diameter.

Delta06_ Chemistry_OFR

This file contains chemical data obtained from an elemental analyzer. Column definitions are as follows:

Sample ID	Sample identification: The first four characters indicate the site sampled. The number that follows these four characters indicates the soil profile within the site. A decimal point separates the profile number from the basal depth of the sample (in cm).
Depth	Indicates the basal depth, in cm, of sampling increment.
Field Horizon Code	Horizon type of the sample, as defined in the field. L = live moss, D = dead moss, F = fibric organic matter (OM), M = mesic OM, H = humic OM, A = A mineral soil horizon, C = C mineral soil horizon, LI = lichen, LT = litter. A lower case 'b' before a horizon code indicates the sample showed evidence of burning (e.g. scorched, charred).
Sample Description	A brief description of the sample.
%C	Percent by weight of carbon in an oven-dried soil sample with material >2 mm or 1 cm diameter removed.
%N	Percent by weight of nitrogen in an oven-dried soil sample with material >2 mm or 1 cm diameter removed.
LOI	The percentage (%) of an oven-dried sample lost when placed in a 550° C furnace for five hours.

Literature Cited

Damman, A.W.H., and French, T.W., 1987, The ecology of peat bogs of the glaciated Northeastern United States: A community profile: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 85(7.16), 100 p.
[Biological Report].

Staff, S.S., 1998, Keys to Soil Taxonomy (8th ed.): Blacksburg, Virginia, Pocahontas Press, Inc.,
599 p.